

ANIMALS - BIRDS

Birds Recently Seen Here

Rafts of eiders and black ducks in Duxbury Bay and of eiders only near the mouth of North River were the highlights of the Christmas bird count in the Marshfield area Dec. 27. There was a conservative estimate of about 500 eiders and of more than 700 blacks. Such concentrations of eiders are unusual here; last year there were none at all. Other ducks identified in far lesser numbers were mallards, greater scaup, golden eye bufflehead, white-winged scoters and red-breasted mergansers.

Northern finches were unreported. There were no grosbeaks, siskins or redpolls. There was a large flock of snow buntings at Duxbury Beach, Dec. 28, but they were missed on the 27th.

Mocking birds and cardinals are still with us. Other birds identified which are not considered winter residents included the piping plover, brown thrasher, robin, red-winged blackbird, grackle and cowbird.

In all some 30 observers identified 53 species on the 27th with an approximate total of over 4100 individuals. Additional birds missed on the 27th, included red-tailed hawk, surf scoter and fox sparrow.

THE COUNTERS

Among those assisting in the count were Mrs. Earl Chandler and Willard Whiting of Duxbury.

Subscribed yet?

DUXBURY CLIPPER

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